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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae>

### **Ex-Camp Maintenance Worker Arrested on Child Molestation Charges**

FRESNO—United States Attorney McGregor Scott and the National Park Service announced today that National Park Service Rangers arrested Norman Chenowith, 76, of Oakhurst, California on child molestation charges.

CHENOWITH was employed as a maintenance worker at Camp Wawona, a Seventh Day Adventist Church Camp in Yosemite National Park. The complaint charges CHENOWITH with violations of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2244(a)(5), Abusive Sexual Contact With Children (15 counts) for acts that took place between 1995 and 2000. The complaint alleges that the defendant had unlawful sexual contact with a minor female between the time she was four years old and eight years old, and that the sexual contact occurred at least 15 times. It further alleges that during this time, CHENOWITH worked at the camp and the minor stayed at the camp because a parent worked there.

If you have any information regarding these or similar offenses, please contact Special Agent Dan Horner (209) 372-0361.

Each count carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. The charges in the complaint are only allegations and the defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

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